

**City of Franklin Common Council  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
March 16, 2015**

The regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Franklin, Indiana was called to order at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall, 70 E. Monroe Street, with Mayor Joseph E. McGuinness presiding. Council members Joseph Abban, Kenneth Austin, Stephen Barnett, Stephen Hougland, Dr. William T. Murphy and Richard Wertz answered roll call. Clerk-Treasurer Janet P. Alexander, Records Clerk Kathy Cragen, City Attorney Lynnette Gray were also present. Council Member Joseph Ault was absent.

Councilor Wertz offered an invocation. Mayor McGuinness opened the meeting and asked the Clerk-Treasurer to call the roll. Mayor McGuinness led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Announcements & Presentations**

Mayor McGuinness announced that the City of Franklin wished to recognize Mr. Robert Hyatt for his military service in WWII, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War. The Mayor stated that Mr. Hyatt had recently received other recognitions including: The Congressional Medal of Honor, Distinguished Hoosier Award, and a Sagamore of the Wabash. The Mayor stated that March 17, 2015 is designated as Robert Hyatt Day in his honor in the City of Franklin.

**Consent Agenda**

Mayor McGuinness presented the consent agenda for approval.

- Approval of the March 2, 2015 Common Council Minutes

Council President Barnett made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Councilor Murphy. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

**Old Business**

Council President Barnett made a motion to read all matters listed under Old Business by title only, seconded by Councilor Abban. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

**Public Hearing**

**Common Council Ordinance No.: 15-02 (Amended) An Ordinance to Regulate Work in the Streets or Street Right-of-Way (ROW) Within the City of Franklin, Indiana and Repealing and**

**Replacing Ordinance No.: 10-16** Mayor McGuinness read the title aloud. City Engineer Underhill stated that the proposed ordinance was introduced and read at the last meeting. Mayor McGuinness opened the floor for a public hearing but no one asked to speak. Council President Barnett made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Abban. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

**Common Council Ordinance No.: 15-03 An Ordinance Authorizing the Clerk-Treasurer of the City of Franklin, Indiana, to Deposit, Invest, and Reinvest Funds in Local Financial Institutions Designated as Depositories** Mayor McGuinness read the title aloud. Clerk-Treasurer Alexander stated this was an ordinance that we must adopt each year to comply with the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) and Indiana's Public Deposit Insurance Fund (PDIF) regulations. Mayor McGuinness opened the floor for public hearing, no one asked to speak. Council President Barnett made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Murphy. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

### **New Business**

Council President Barnett made a motion to read all proposed ordinances and resolutions by title only, seconded by Councilor Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

**Common Council Resolution No.: 15-06 A Resolution Granting Tax Abatement for Overton Industries: Tube Forming Systems (EDC 2015-01)** Mayor McGuinness read the title aloud. City Attorney Gray stated this item is ready for action by the Council tonight. Mayor McGuinness stated he had toured the facility, saw the operation and where they are expanding. Councilor Austin stated that this request for a tax abatement was considered and the Economic Development Commission recommended approval of a five year personal property tax abatement with a 5% Economic Development Fee on their new equipment investment of \$220,044. Councilor Austin made a motion to approve the recommendation from the EDC, seconded by Councilor Wertz. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

**Common Council Resolution No.: 15-07 A Resolution Establishing an Economic Revitalization Area and Granting a Vacant Building Tax Abatement For Electro-Spec Inc. (EDC 2015-02)** – Mayor McGuinness read the title aloud. City Attorney Gray stated this is also a request for tax abatement but she said that it should be designated as an ERA first, and then at the next meeting there will be a confirming resolution before the tax abatement could be approved. A discussion was held. Councilor Austin made a motion to designate this property as an ERA, seconded by Councilor Murphy. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried. The confirming resolution will be brought to the next meeting.

**Common Council Resolution No.: 15-10 A Resolution Authorizing Per Diem Compensation of Redevelopment Commission (RDC) Members** – Mayor McGuinness read this item aloud. Councilor

Wertz explained that appointed officials serving on all other boards and commissions are paid except the Redevelopment Commission (RDC) members. Councilor Wertz explained his conviction that the non-elected members of the RDC should be paid just as other commission / board members. City Attorney Gray stated that the law permits RDC members to be compensated. She pointed out that the non-elected members of the RDC who could be compensated include: Bob Heuchan, B.J. Deppe, and Jay Goad. A discussion was held. Clerk-Treasurer Alexander stated that if approved, the amounts authorized for annual payment would need to be appropriated from the General Fund and suggested that the line item be assigned to the Community Development budget. Councilor Wertz made a motion to approve resolution 15-10 authorizing a quarterly payment to the three eligible RDC members; this motion was seconded by Council President Barnett. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

**Common Council Budgetary Ordinance No.: 15-05 An Additional Appropriation from Police Grants/Police Fund to Police Supplies in the amount of \$3,790.00** Mayor McGuinness read the title aloud. The Mayor stated that this is a request to appropriate money received from A Drug Free Johnson County to purchase supplies. The proposed ordinance is presented for introduction only at this meeting.

**Common Council Budgetary Ordinance No.: 15-06 An Additional Appropriation of the CCI Fund in the Amount of \$25,000.00.** Mayor McGuinness read the title aloud. The Mayor stated that CCI monies, which come from cigarette taxes, are traditionally used to add or upgrade technology. He pointed out the planned installation of large television style monitors in the council chambers as an example. Clerk-Treasurer Alexander stated that \$13,000 of the requested appropriation will be used to purchase new budget management software and to purchase updated equipment. This proposed ordinance is presented for introduction only at this meeting.

### **Other Business**

**Discussion Concerning Longevity to Merit Police Officers and Fire Fighters After 20 Years of Service** – A discussion was held regarding a proposed ordinance to address the annual certification of wages for Police and Fire upon the retirement of all merit officers currently paid under the old longevity plan. A recommendation was given to the City Attorney to review the matter further and to begin to draft an ordinance.

### **Council Comments**

Councilor Abban stated there will be a Plan Commission meeting tomorrow night at 7:00 p.m. Councilor Wertz stated there will be an RDC meeting tomorrow morning at 8:00 a.m.

Mayor McGuinness stated that he would like to continue holding Council meetings at 6:00 p.m. following the BOW meeting. No one objected.

**Adjournment**

As there was no further business to come before the Common Council, a motion and a second were made to adjourn at 6:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Janet P. Alexander, Clerk-Treasurer  
Enrolled: 03/30/15

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Joseph McGuinness, Mayor

Attest:

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Janet P. Alexander, Clerk-Treasurer